



State of North Carolina
ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL COMMISSION

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N.C. Alcoholic Beverage Control Commission Takes Action on 80 Hearing Cases and Reviews Proposed Updates to the N.C. Administrative Code

RALEIGH – At its regular monthly meeting today, the North Carolina Alcoholic Beverage Control Commission took action on 80 hearing cases, including a case involving a Wilmington bar named the Liquid Room. Earlier in the year, the ABC Commission had suspended the temporary permits the business held; the matter was next before the Office of Administrative Hearings, which found that based on evidence presented, the Liquid Room should be allowed to hold permits to sell and serve alcohol. The Commission's decision today affirmed the court's ruling allowing permanent permits, but did not accept two conclusions of law in the OAH ruling related to alcohol enforcement policy.

The Commission also held a public hearing on proposed changes to Title 4, Chapter 2R of the NC Administrative Code and reviewed proposed changes to Chapter 2S. The recommended changes to Chapter 2S will be published and posted to the North Carolina Register for public review and comment for at least 60 days.

During the Aug. 19 session, the Commission imposed penalties and fines totaling approximately \$94,000 on representatives of retail bars, restaurants, groceries and clubs found to be in violation of their permits. In addition to the fines, many of the violations resulted in suspensions of permits for five days or more. The fines are to be paid by Sept. 10, 2010 with suspensions beginning Sept. 17, 2010. Fines benefit the local school systems where the violations occurred.

In other matters, the Commission:

- Recognized ABC Commission employees who had achieved milestone years of service.
- Granted the request of an Eden ABC Board employee to be granted an exemption for five years allowing him to also work as a server for a caterer who does not hold a mixed beverage permit.

ABOUT THE ABC COMMISSION

Jonathan S. "Jon" Williams serves as chairman of the N.C. Alcoholic Beverage Commission. A.D. "Zander" Guy is commissioner. North Carolina is one of 19 states to regulate alcohol through a control system. Since 1937, the North Carolina Alcoholic Beverage Control Commission has provided regulation and control over the sale, purchase, transportation, manufacture, consumption and possession of alcoholic beverages in the state of North Carolina. The commission oversees more than 25,000 permits allowing alcohol sales by more than 17,000 retail outlets across the state. In fiscal year 2009, the Commission returned more than \$250 million in taxes and revenue to benefit the General Fund and the budgets of local cities and counties that sell alcoholic beverages.